



## MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

## United States Patent Application

**COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

As a ~~business~~ named in ~~TRADE~~ I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that

I verily believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or a joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: **A MULTIMEDIA OUTLET BOX**

The specification of which

a.  is attached hereto  
b.  was filed on February 1, 2000, as Attorney Docket No. 2316.1151US01 and was amended on (if applicable) (in the case of a PCT-filed application) described and claimed in international no. filed and as amended on (if any), which I have reviewed and for which I solicit a United States patent.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 (attached hereto).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119/365 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on the basis of which priority is claimed:

- a.  no such applications have been filed.
- b.  such applications have been filed as follows:

FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, CLAIMING PRIORITY UNDER 35 USC § 119			
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)

  

ALL FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, FILED BEFORE THE PRIORITY APPLICATION(S)			
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120/365 of any United States and PCT international application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	STATUS (patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

U.S. PROVISIONAL APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (Day, Month, Year)

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) or patent agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith:

Albrecht, John W. Reg. No. 40,481  
Anderson, Gregg I. Reg. No. 28,828  
Ansems, Gregory M. Reg. No. 42,264  
Batzli, Brian H. Reg. No. 32,960  
Beard, John L. Reg. No. 27,612  
Berner, John M. Reg. No. 43,496  
Black, Bruce E. Reg. No. 41,622  
Bruess, Steven C. Reg. No. 34,130  
Byrne, Linda M. Reg. No. 32,404  
Carlson, Alan G. Reg. No. 25,959  
Caspers, Philip P. Reg. No. 33,227  
Chiapetta, James R. Reg. No. 39,634  
Clifford, John A. Reg. No. 30,247  
Cochran, William W. Reg. No. 26,652  
Daignault, Ronald A. Reg. No. 25,968  
Daley, Dennis R. Reg. No. 34,994  
Dalglash, Leslie E. Reg. No. 40,579  
Daulton, Julie R. Reg. No. 36,414  
DeVries Smith, Katherine M. Reg. No. 42,157  
DiPietro, Mark J. Reg. No. 28,707  
Edell, Robert T. Reg. No. 20,187  
Epp Ryan, Sandra Reg. No. 39,667  
Glance, Robert J. Reg. No. 40,620  
Goggin, Matthew J. Reg. No. 44,125  
Golla, Charles E. Reg. No. 26,896  
Gorman, Alan G. Reg. No. 38,472  
Gould, John D. Reg. No. 18,223  
Gregson, Richard Reg. No. 41,804  
Gresens, John J. Reg. No. 33,112  
Hamre, Curtis B. Reg. No. 29,165  
Hillson, Randall A. Reg. No. 31,838  
Holzer, Jr., Richard J. Reg. No. 42,668  
Johnston, Scott W. Reg. No. 39,721  
Kadievitch, Natalie D. Reg. No. 34,196  
Kastelic, Joseph M. Reg. No. 37,160  
Kettelberger, Denise Reg. No. 33,924  
Keys, Jeramie J. Reg. No. 42,724  
Knearl, Homer L. Reg. No. 21,197  
Kowalchyk, Alan W. Reg. No. 31,535  
Kowalchyk, Katherine M. Reg. No. 36,848  
O I P E J C  
APR 19 2000  
PATENT & TRADEMARKS  
Lacy, Paul E. Reg. No. 38,946  
Larson, James A. Reg. No. 40,443  
Liepa, Mara E. Reg. No. 40,066  
Lindquist, Timothy A. Reg. No. 40,701  
McDonald, Daniel W. Reg. No. 32,044  
McIntyre, Jr., William F. Reg. No. P-44,921  
Mueller, Douglas P. Reg. No. 30,300  
Pauly, Daniel M. Reg. No. 40,123  
Phillips, John B. Reg. No. 37,206  
Plunkett, Theodore Reg. No. 37,209  
Pytel, Melissa J. Reg. No. 41,512  
Reich, John C. Reg. No. 37,703  
Reiland, Earl D. Reg. No. 25,767  
Schmaltz, David G. Reg. No. 39,828  
Schuman, Mark D. Reg. No. 31,197  
Schumann, Michael D. Reg. No. 30,422  
Scull, Timothy B. Reg. No. 42,137  
Sebald, Gregory A. Reg. No. 33,280  
Skoog, Mark T. Reg. No. 40,178  
Stoll-DeBell, Kirstin L. Reg. No. 43,164  
Storer, Shelley D. Reg. No. 45,135  
Sumner, John P. Reg. No. 29,114  
Summers, John S. Reg. No. 24,216  
Swenson, Erik G. Reg. No. 45,147  
Tellekson, David K. Reg. No. 32,314  
Trembath, Jon R. Reg. No. 38,344  
Underhill, Albert L. Reg. No. 27,403  
Vandenburgh, J. Derek Reg. No. 32,179  
Wahl, John R. Reg. No. 33,044  
Weaver, Karrie G. Reg. No. 43,245  
Welter, Paul A. Reg. No. 20,890  
Whipps, Brian Reg. No. 43,261  
Wickhem, J. Scot Reg. No. 41,376  
Williams, Douglas J. Reg. No. 27,054  
Witt, Jonelle Reg. No. 41,980  
Wu, Tong Reg. No. 43,361  
Xu, Min S. Reg. No. 39,536  
Zeuli, Anthony R. Reg. No. 45,255

I hereby authorize them to act and rely on instructions from and communicate directly with the person/assignee/attorney/firm/ organization who/which first sends/sent this case to them and by whom/which I hereby declare that I have consented after full disclosure to be represented unless/until I instruct Merchant & Gould P.C. to the contrary.

Please direct all correspondence in this case to Merchant & Gould P.C. at the address indicated below:

Merchant & Gould P.C.  
3100 Norwest Center  
90 South Seventh Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55402-4131

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

2	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name ELLIOT	First Given Name DOUGLAS	Second Given Name G.
0	Residence & Citizenship	City WACONIA	State or Foreign Country MINNESOTA	Country of Citizenship USA
1	Post Office Address	Post Office Address 9355 LYNNWOOD ROAD	City WACONIA	State & Zip Code/Country MINNESOTA 55387/USA
Signature of Inventor 201: <i>Douglas G Elliot</i>			Date:	3-22-00
2	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name MATTSON	First Given Name LOREN	Second Given Name J.
0	Residence & Citizenship	City RICHFIELD	State or Foreign Country MINNESOTA	Country of Citizenship USA
2	Post Office Address	Post Office Address 6609 EMERSON AVE. SO.	City RICHFIELD	State & Zip Code/Country MINNESOTA 55423/USA
Signature of Inventor 202: <i>Loren J Mattson</i>			Date:	3-22-00
2	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name MCCLELLAN	First Given Name TERRY	Second Given Name E.
0	Residence & Citizenship	City MAPLE GROVE	State or Foreign Country MINNESOTA	Country of Citizenship USA
3	Post Office Address	Post Office Address 9090 PEONY LANE	City MAPLE GROVE	State & Zip Code/Country MINNESOTA 55311/USA
Signature of Inventor 203: <i>Robert Debrey</i>			Date:	3-22-00
2	Full Name Of Inventor	Family Name DEBREY	First Given Name ROBERT	Second Given Name J.
0	Residence & Citizenship	City EDINA	State or Foreign Country MINNESOTA	Country of Citizenship U.S.A.
4	Post Office Address	Post Office Address 4502 BROWNSDALE AVENUE	City EDINA	State & Zip Code/Country MINNESOTA 55424 U.S.A.
Signature of Inventor 204: <i>Robert Debrey -</i>			Date:	3-31-00

§ 1.56 Duty to disclose information material to patentability.

(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is canceled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)–(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

- (1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and
- (2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.

(b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and

- (1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim; or
- (2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:
  - (i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or
  - (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

- (c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:
  - (1) Each inventor named in the application;
  - (2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
  - (3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.
- (d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor.